

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant has carefully reviewed and considered the Office Action mailed on January 7, 2005, and the references cited therewith.

No claims were amended, canceled, or added. Claims 27 and 44 are pending in this application.

Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 27 and 44 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting rejection as being unpatentable over claim 14 and 23 of U.S. Patent No. 6,769,756 in view of Watanabe (U.S. Patent No. 4,484,199). A Terminal Disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) is enclosed herewith to overcome these rejections.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney at (360) 212-8052 to facilitate prosecution of this matter.

At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to the Deposit Account No. 08-2025.

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR §1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents, P.O. BOX 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 10th day of March, 2005.

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Respectfully Submitted,
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3/10/2005